



**To:** Zero Waste Advisory Commission  
**From:** Bob Gedert, Director  
Austin Resource Recovery Department  
**Date:** August 12, 2015  
**Subject:** **Director's Monthly Report to the Zero Waste Advisory Commission**

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### **Welcome New (and returning) ZWAC Commissioners**

As Department Director of Austin Resource Recovery (ARR), I welcome you to the newly formed 2015 Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC). I look forward to a fruitful and collaborative working relationship. I will introduce the department's leadership team at the meeting, as you will hear from them through staff briefings. At times, we will be reporting on the activities of the Department. For most of our monthly meeting time, we will be discussing the pursuit of city-wide Zero Waste.

As the city councils since 2005 have made a strong commitment toward Zero Waste, I'd like to note that this journey is one of many partnerships. As a community, we cannot achieve Zero Waste solely on governmental policies and services. We must rely on our partners, residents, and local leaders to help us increase public access to diversion services and further empower Austinites to send less waste to the landfills. Therefore, many of these Zero Waste initiatives will be accomplished through community and business partnerships. As ZWAC Commissioners, you play a very large role in the community partnerships we are building to implement Zero Waste diversion programs and services. Your leadership is critical toward reaching our goals.

### **Community Engagement Update**

Austin Resource Recovery recently released [an independent study](#) that shows more recyclables are going to the landfill than are being recycled in residents' blue carts. In fact, 44 percent of what is found in Austin's residential trash stream could have been recycled. The study was the first of its kind for the City of Austin and is integral to achieving the Council-adopted Zero Waste goal.

In response to the study results, Austin Resource Recovery has joined forces with the City's Innovation Office to ask Austin residents for their insights about recycling. Unlike "ideas" which are generally suggestions for solving a problem, "insights" reveal the root of the problem. Insights will help Austin Resource Recovery understand the barriers to recycling and help us to effectively target new outreach efforts and city services to where they're needed most.

From July 27 through August 24, Austin Resource Recovery is asking citizens to share their insights for improving household recycling using the following methods:

- Joining the conversation online using a web-based [community insight platform](#) ([insights.austintexas.gov](http://insights.austintexas.gov));
- Texting their insights to 512-580-7778; and
- Directly engaging with our staff in places where residents shop, work and play during Speak Week, currently scheduled for mid-August.

Once the community insights have been collected, staff will report back to citizens what we have learned and actions the City plans to take.

### **Sustainable Materials Management Summit – National Recycling Coalition and USEPA**

The National Recycling Coalition, Inc. (NRC), in partnership with the Syracuse University Center for Sustainable Community Solution and University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, held a two day Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Summit on May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, focused on the sustainable management of discarded materials in the United States (a descriptive title for Zero Waste).

The Summit aimed to enrich the value and role of SMM initiatives in communities across the United States. Its ultimate goal will be to assist in the acceleration of SMM as a method of choice for managing discarded materials. NRC facilitated a dialogue among participants to reach deeper connections for actions and activities in the future.

Approximately 200 attended the SMM Summit representing a broad spectrum of key stakeholders, including federal, regional, state and local governments, recycling organizations and other nonprofits, trade and industry groups and progressive businesses. About 40 key stakeholders, including myself, discussed best practices and the development of action-oriented strategies intended to promote SMM throughout North America.

Each attendee was invited to complete a one-page white paper that provided background on what they do in Sustainable Materials Management (SMM), as well as their unique insight into their suggested policy direction for SMM. They used this space for opinion, scientific justification, statistical data, or other. These discussions and white papers will contribute to the NRC National SMM Action Plan, to be further discussed in September.

### **Actions Taken by City Council since the last ZWAC Meeting**

June 18<sup>th</sup>: City Council authorized the execution of an interlocal agreement between the City and Travis County for household hazardous waste collection services for County residents who live outside of the incorporated limits of the City.

August 6<sup>th</sup>; Mayor Adler presented the Distinguished Service Award - Tim Hill – an ARR Safety employee – for his valiant actions to deliver a baby on the side of the road under emergency conditions, assisted through advice from a 311 call attendant.

**Personnel Changes July 2015**

New employee	Temp to Reg	Transfers	Retirees	Promotions	Title
Carla Sisco					Supv, Support Services
Damon Fowler					MuniProg, Associate
Dana Johnson					MuniProg, Administrative Sppt
Michael Torres					MuniProg, Associate
Jose Torres					Austin Rsc Recovery Operator
David Fuentes					Austin Rsc Recovery Operator
Alan J. Limuel					Austin Rsc Recovery Operator
Clay R. Barker					Austin Rsc Recovery Operator
Stevie Whitley					MuniProg, Associate
Marshall E. Mark					MuniProg, Associate
Henry Jackson					MuniProg, Associate
Donnell Darks					MuniProg, Associate
Manuael Aleman					MuniProg, Associate
Clarence Scott					MuniProg, Associate
	Raymond Selby				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
	Eli Duran				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
	Shenandoah Langston				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
	Kevin Vizcaino				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
	Joshua Tibbs				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
	Eric Hernandez				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
				Derrick Steward	Austin Rsc Recovery Operator

**Positions we are looking to fill in August 2015:**

<b>Position</b>	<b># of open positions</b>	<b>Contact Manager</b>	<b>Posting Status</b>
Contract Compliance Specialist Sr	2	Jessica Frazier	Position Posted
Planner III or Sr	1	Jessica King	Position to be Posted
Waste Diversion Planner	1	Jessica King	Screening Applications
Research Analyst	1	Tammie Williamson	Screening Applications
Performance Consultant	1	Blanche Quarterman	Top candidates selected
Occ. Health and Safety Spec Sr	1	Jeff Dilbert	Top candidates selected
Austin Rsc Recovery Operator	3	Ron Romero	Interviews scheduled
Austin Rsc Recovery Operator Sr	2	Ron Romero	Top candidates selected
Environmental Program Specialist	2	Donald Hardee	Top candidates selected
Environmental Program Tech	1	Donald Hardee	Position to be Posted
Austin Rsc Recovery Oper (YT)	1	Richard McHale	Interviews scheduled
Austin Rsc Recovery Assoc (LC)	1	Richard McHale	Position to be Posted
Austin Rsc Recovery Oper/Assoc	3	Richard McHale	Top candidates selected
Muniprogram, ARR Associate*	8	McHale/Romero	Top candidates selected/Position Posted

\* Temporary denotes a Temporary worker

**Zero Waste Advisory Commission - August 12, 2015**

**Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report**

**FY 2014-15: October, 2014 - June, 2015**

**Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) and Balcones Resources, Inc. (BRI)**

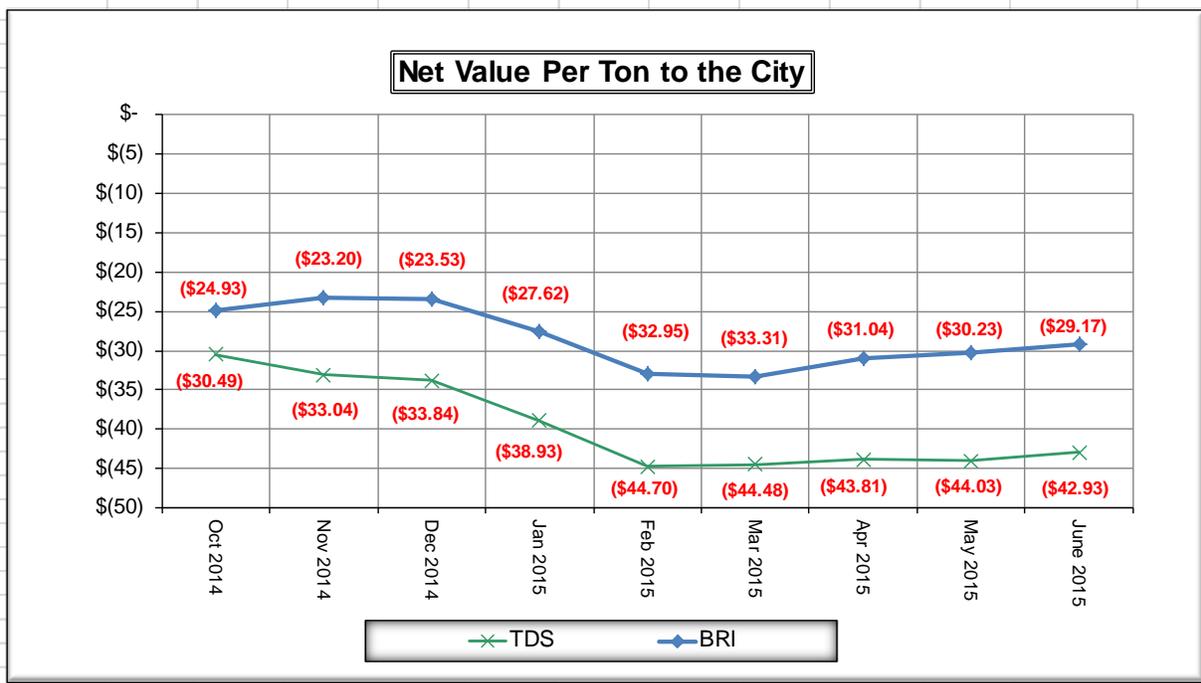
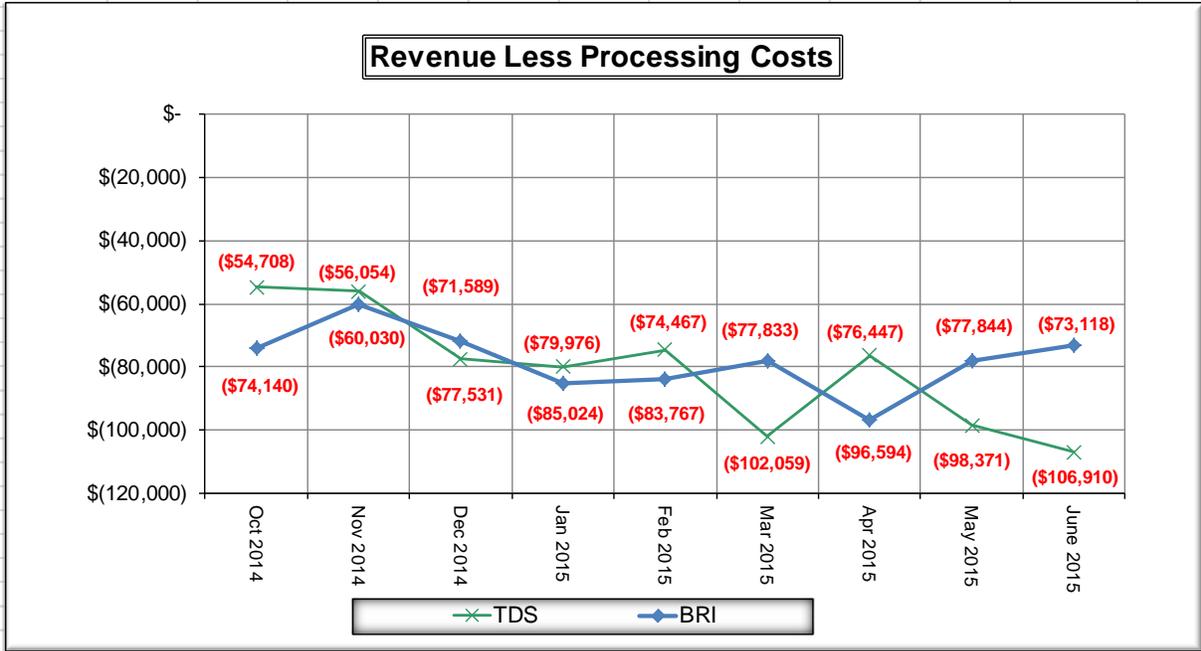
Month and Year	Contractor	Tons Delivered	Contractor Payments			Net Value to the City \$ per ton value	Landfill Cost Avoidance	
			Revenue	Processing Cost	Net Amount Due/(Owed)		Cost Per Ton	Total
October 2014	TDS	1,794.16	\$109,458	\$164,166	(\$54,708)	(\$30.49)	\$21.49	\$38,556
	BRI	2,973.81	\$161,505	\$235,645	(\$74,140)	(\$24.93)	\$21.49	\$63,907
	<i>Total</i>	4,767.97	\$270,963	\$399,811	(\$128,848)			\$102,464
November 2014	TDS	1,696.79	\$99,202	\$155,256	(\$56,054)	(\$33.04)	\$21.49	\$36,464
	BRI	2,587.55	\$146,047	\$206,077	(\$60,030)	(\$23.20)	\$21.49	\$55,606
	<i>Total</i>	4,284.34	\$245,249	\$361,333	(\$116,085)			\$92,070
December 2014	TDS	2,291.38	\$132,131	\$209,661	(\$77,531)	(\$33.84)	\$21.49	\$49,242
	BRI	3,042.85	\$169,341	\$240,930	(\$71,589)	(\$23.53)	\$21.49	\$65,391
	<i>Total</i>	5,334.23	\$301,472	\$450,592	(\$149,120)			\$114,633
January 2015	TDS	2,054.29	\$107,991	\$187,968	(\$79,976)	(\$38.93)	\$21.49	\$44,147
	BRI	3,078.17	\$158,610	\$243,634	(\$85,024)	(\$27.62)	\$21.49	\$66,150
	<i>Total</i>	5,132.46	\$266,601	\$431,601	(\$165,000)			\$110,297
February 2015	TDS	1,665.75	\$77,949	\$152,416	(\$74,467)	(\$44.70)	\$21.49	\$35,797
	BRI	2,542.52	\$118,863	\$202,630	(\$83,767)	(\$32.95)	\$21.49	\$54,639
	<i>Total</i>	4,208.27	\$196,812	\$355,046	(\$158,234)			\$90,436
March 2015	TDS	2,294.45	\$107,883	\$209,942	(\$102,059)	(\$44.48)	\$21.49	\$49,308
	BRI	2,336.33	\$109,013	\$186,846	(\$77,833)	(\$33.31)	\$21.49	\$50,208
	<i>Total</i>	4,630.78	\$216,896	\$396,788	(\$179,892)			\$99,515
April 2015	TDS	1,744.78	\$83,199	\$159,646	(\$76,447)	(\$43.81)	\$21.49	\$37,495
	BRI	3,111.61	\$149,599	\$246,193	(\$96,594)	(\$31.04)	\$21.49	\$66,868
	<i>Total</i>	4,856.39	\$232,799	\$405,840	(\$173,041)			\$104,364
May 2015	TDS	2,234.12	\$106,051	\$204,422	(\$98,371)	(\$44.03)	\$21.49	\$48,011
	BRI	2,575.35	\$127,299	\$205,143	(\$77,844)	(\$30.23)	\$21.49	\$55,344
	<i>Total</i>	4,809.47	\$233,350	\$409,565	(\$176,215)			\$103,356
June 2015	TDS	2,490.47	\$120,968	\$227,878	(\$106,910)	(\$42.93)	\$21.36	\$53,196
	BRI	2,506.61	\$126,763	\$199,881	(\$73,118)	(\$29.17)	\$21.36	\$53,541
	<i>Total</i>	4,997.08	\$247,730	\$427,759	(\$180,029)			\$106,738
<b>FY 2014-15 Totals</b>		<b>43,020.99</b>	<b>\$2,211,871</b>	<b>\$3,638,335</b>	<b>(\$1,426,464)</b>			<b>\$923,872</b>

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**Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report**

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## Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and HHW Operations

	LAST FISCAL YEAR				CURRENT FISCAL YEAR				FY 2016 Goal
	FY 2013	FY 2014	May 2014	Jun 2014	FY14 YTD (Oct 13- June 14)	May 2015	Jun 2015	FY16 YTD (Oct 14- June 15)	
<b>Tons of Curbside Garbage</b>	124,183	127,524	11,385	11,077	95,511	11,180	11,979	98,510	123,000
<b>Tons of Curbside Bulk Disposed</b>	8,500	8,892	1,175	775	6,077	1,051	1,065	5,947	8,453
<b>HHW Operations Tons Disposed</b>	381	442	48	39	305	31	34	305	330
<b>Total Disposed Tons Collected Curbside and from HHW Operations</b>	<b>133,064</b>	<b>137,258</b>	<b>12,608</b>	<b>11,891</b>	<b>101,893</b>	<b>12,262</b>	<b>13,078</b>	<b>104,763</b>	<b>131,789</b>
<b>Tons of curbside recycling</b>	53,702	55,494	4,752	4,632	41,720	4,811	5,044	43,209	60,000
<b>HHW Operations Tons recycled/reused</b>	240	296	27	31	210	29	32	217	230
<b>Tons of Curbside Yard Trimmings</b>	25,898	27,327	2,992	2,332	22,926	2,567	1,752	24,186	29,037
<b>Tons of Curbside Bulk Recycled</b>	181	176	25	16	124	24	18	122	180
<b>Tons of Curbside Brush Collected</b>	7,359	6,652	545	694	4,725	702	1,667	5,633	8,056
<b>Total Diverted Tons Collected Curbside and from HHW Operations</b>	<b>87,580</b>	<b>90,016</b>	<b>8,441</b>	<b>7,706</b>	<b>69,706</b>	<b>8,133</b>	<b>8,618</b>	<b>75,987</b>	<b>97,603</b>
<b>Total Tons Collected Curbside and from HHW Operations</b>	<b>220,444</b>	<b>227,273</b>	<b>20,949</b>	<b>19,597</b>	<b>171,598</b>	<b>20,986</b>	<b>21,692</b>	<b>178,180</b>	<b>229,292</b>
<b>Percent of Waste Stream Diverted by Curbside and HHW Operations</b>	<b>39.84%</b>	<b>39.81%</b>	<b>39.82%</b>	<b>39.32%</b>	<b>40.82%</b>	<b>39.88%</b>	<b>39.43%</b>	<b>41.19%</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>Pounds of Garbage collected per customer per pickup</b>	<b>25.53</b>	<b>25.98</b>	<b>27.71</b>	<b>26.80</b>	<b>25.91</b>	<b>28.84</b>	<b>28.72</b>	<b>28.39</b>	<b>24.84</b>
<b>Number of Garbage customers</b>	187,105	189,543	189,795	191,892	189,072	191,649	192,195	191,442	193,900
<b>Pounds of Recycled materials collected per customer per pickup (every other week)</b>	22.26	22.78	23.30	22.55	22.91	23.38	24.38	23.33	26.84
<b>Pounds of Yard Trimmings collected per customer per week</b>	5.37	5.82	7.94	5.88	8.29	8.24	4.23	8.63	8.21
<b>Number of Recycling and Yard Trimmings customers</b>	185,658	187,286	188,407	189,334	186,797	190,116	190,554	189,528	193,600
<b>Number of PAYT pickups</b>	52	52	4.33	4.34	39	4.33	4.34	39	52
<b>Total tons of Dead Animals Collected from COA rights-of-way and the animal shelter</b>	50	61	5	4	47	6	5	48	58